Today's News - August 14, 2006

The buzz from east and west coasts is all about green Chicago. — Dunster takes his Zed rating to China. — The world's fastest growing city (in China, of course) has a spot that's forever England, mock castle included (the windmill was cancelled). — The Boston architect who's also become a master power broker (in China, of course), but is he promoting preservation or pastiche? — Big project in Dubai with a decidedly British accent. — New Urbanism and TND's become policy in Florida county (just how high do those porches have to be?). — Paris wants to rebuild the Tuileries Palace. — At last, good news for Kahn's Trenton Bath House. — Kansas City decides some Modern is worth saving. — Saffron in Stuttgart: Mercedes-Benz Museum is stunning - and subversive (in a good way). — New developer vows Calatrava's Chicago tower will be built. — King has high hopes that a huge urban project in San Francisco can overcome overstuffed politics (and value engineering) "to be an energetic, counterintuitive triumph." — A building as triumph or turkey - it's all in the details. — Students walk (or rather wheel) the talk to leam how to design for everyone. — Another glitch for Flight 93 memorial? — Deadline looms for affordable housing competition.

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<u>Greening of Chicago Starts at the Top Floor: Mayor Daley Pushes Urban Ecology Into the Mainstream</u>- Washington Post

Mayor of San Francisco Looks Eastward for Urban Inspiration: Winds of change blow from Chicago...the philosophical gap between civic cultures is profound. By John King-San Francisco Chronicle

Building a zero-carbon world: Ken Livingstone is in cahoots with Bill Dunster, but it's in China where the eco-architect is fulfilling his dreams- Observer (UK)

Welcome to China's Thames Town: Builders are putting the finishing touches to a new town that is forever England, complete with pub and market square. This is not the Home Counties, however, but the outskirts of the world's fastest-growing city...£200m development will be part of Songjiang City... -- WS Atkins- Independent (UK)

Our Man in Shanghai: Ben Wood Takes On History: ...has transformed himself from a successful Boston architect into a Shanghai power broker whose designs translate into billions of dollars in development...What's he promoting? Preservation or pastiche? By Julie V. lovine [slide show]- New York Times

Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC) selects architect for "Masterplan"...to develop a major section of the AED 16 billion ...enhancement of the DWTC Complex and surrounding area. -- Hopkins Architects; WSP Group- Mena Report (Jordan)

The new look of community: In an area known more for its sprawling suburbs and commuter lifestyle, new communities with a retro feel are on the cutting edge of neighborhood design. Pasco County... got its first Traditional Neighborhood Development [TND] ordinance, codifying standards that began life in the architecture-driven, antisprawl New Urbanism movement.- St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

£200m plan to restore glory of Tuileries Palace: The reconstruction task would be made all the easier as the 10 foot foundations still stand and detailed architectural plans have survived...[could be] completed within a decade. Telegraph (UK)

Pact to buy JCC, restore Louis I. Kahn-designed Trenton Bath House...building will be included in the county's tourism pitch.- The Times (New Jersey)

Is modern worth saving? The TWA building, which is getting a \$25 million makeover, may provide some answers. By Steve Paul — Raymond E. Bales/Morris Schechter (1956): David Dowell/El Dorado [images]- Kansas City Star

Cars' intricacy echoed in Mercedes museum: ...a stunning building that celebrates Mercedes' good taste, yet serves as a subversive commentary on today's use of architecture as a promotional tool...a perfect metaphor for the state of museum architecture today: a never-ending loop of art and commerce, without beginning, middle or end. By Inga Saffron -- UN Studio- Philadelphia Inquirer

Developer's lawyer assures Calatrava's tower on track: ...he still had to negotiate to buy the striking design; Veteran Skidmore, Owings & Merrill structural engineer John Zils...has announced that he'll retire in late September. By Blair Kamin- Chicago Tribune

Here's hoping 1,900 new units don't add up to one big monster: Only architects as sculpturally inventive as the ones at Arquitectonica could take an overstuffed political deal like 1177 Market St. and come up with a design that has the potential to be an energetic, counterintuitive triumph. By John King [image]- San Francisco Chronicle

Some modern building details are simply gewgawful: It's these little things - the oversights of otherwise decent architects, the corner-cutting that results from "value engineering"...that often make the difference between a good building and a great one, or that taken together define a real turkey. By Whitney Gould — Calatrava; Uhen; Hammel, Green and Abrahamson; David Kahler; HOK [slide show]- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Landscape Class Cultivates Access: A UCLA Extension course puts able-bodied students in wheelchairs to teach them how to design for everyone.- Los Angeles Times

Looking for some credit: Lisa Austin and Madis Pihlak aren't demanding money or threatening a prolonged, costly lawsuit. All they want is recognition...maintain that the evolving design for the Flight 93 National Memorial is strikingly similar to their own. — Paul Murdoch Architects— The Tribune-Democrat (Pennsylvania)

Call for entries: How to Provide Affordable Housing Innovation Award Competition; deadline: August 23- Changemakers

Fine Tuning: Utah State University Performance Hall: Inspired by the surrounding

mountains, a new building establishes a campus arts precinct that bridges the town/gown divide. -- Sasaki Associates [images]- ArchNewsNow

- Inauguration: SANAA/Kazuyo Sejima + Ryue Nishizawa: Zollverein School, Essen,
 Germany
 Under construction: Rem Koolhaas/OMA: Coal Washing Plant, Zollverein Mining
- Complex, Essen, Germany
- -- Master Plan: Rem Koolhaas/OMA: Zollverein Mining Complex, Essen, Germany

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